

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A cover for a manhole top [[with]]

comprising:

a cover body; and [[with]]

at least one locking means arranged on the cover body, [[said]] wherein the locking means having includes a spring section, a retaining section, and an engagement section, wherein the engagement section is arranged thereon on the spring section, [[an]] wherein the engagement section that can be brought into engagement with is constructed to engage a part of a frame, wherein the spring section is attached by each of two ends of the spring section has two ends that are joined together at the retaining section and are connected to the retaining section, wherein the retaining section is attached to the cover body so as to space the spring section and is otherwise separated from the cover body, and wherein the engagement section is arranged between the two ends of the spring section, and wherein the spring section is designed formed as an annular body, which is attached to the cover body by a retaining section that essentially joins the two ends of the spring section, wherein the spring section extends in a plane that is substantially parallel to the cover body.

Claims 2 and 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 1, wherein the annular body is formed substantially in ~~[[has]]~~ the ~~approximate~~ shape of a circle.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 4, wherein the engagement section is arranged at a ~~location~~ essentially position diametrically opposite the retaining section.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 1, wherein the annular body is formed substantially in ~~[[has]]~~ the ~~approximate~~ shape of an oval, wherein the oval includes ~~[[with]]~~ two curved sections and two ~~essentially~~ elongated sections, the two curved sections being connected to one another by the two elongated sections ~~connecting these two curved sections to one another.~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 6, wherein the retaining section is ~~located~~ disposed on one of the two elongated ~~section~~ sections, and the engagement section is ~~located~~ disposed on the other ~~section~~ of the two sections.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 7, wherein the elongated section bearing the engagement section is recessed relative to ~~[[the]]~~ ends of the two curved sections that are directly connected by this to the elongated section bearing the engagement section.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The cover as in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the engagement section has a wedge-shaped detent section.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 1, wherein the locking means is located disposed on the underside of the cover body.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The cover according to claim 1, wherein the cover includes ~~is provided with~~ stiffening ribs, wherein the locking means are spaced located a distance [[apart]] from the stiffening ribs ~~on the cover body~~.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A manhole top comprising:  
a cover configured according to claim 1; and  
a frame for accommodating the cover;  
a cover body; and  
at least one locking means arranged on the cover body, wherein the locking  
means includes a spring section, a retaining section, and an engagement section, wherein  
the engagement section is arranged on the spring section, wherein the engagement section  
is constructed to engage a part of the frame, wherein the spring section has two ends that  
are joined together at the retaining section and are connected to the retaining section,  
wherein the retaining section is attached to the cover body so as to space the spring section  
from the cover body, and wherein the engagement section is arranged between the two ends  
of the spring section, and wherein the spring section is formed as an annular body.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The cover according to claim 6, wherein the curved sections are semicircular.